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TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

House Membership

Representative Ken Mercer



Biographical Information

Ken Mercer is a 47-year-old businessman who was elected to represent State House District 117. With new boundaries announced in 2001, this district is one of the largest and most diverse in Bexar County.

Encompassing half of San Antonio south of Highway 90 and north to Interstate 10 outside of Loop 1604, District 117 includes: UTSA, the Texas Research Park, Palo Alto College, Valero Energy HQ, Security Service Credit Union HQ, CitiGroup HQ, Lackland Air Force Base, Air Force Village I and II, and a multitude of economic development opportunities associated with Toyota Texas, just across Highway 16 from the district's southeastern boundary.

A freshman Legislator, Ken was selected by Speaker of the House Tom Craddick to serve on three major committees; Transportation, Higher Education and House Administration. Each assignment has significant importance for San Antonio, Bexar County and the State of Texas.

Transportation is one of the most critical issues in Texas today. From the Governor's Trans Texas plan to the immediate needs of San Antonio development, Representative Mercer's role will be key. Ken envisions combining the already planned Kelly Corridor with the rapidly growing role of the North American Free Trade Agreement and the critical needs of the just announced Toyota plant and the infrastructure necessary to support this tremendous economic generator. As Chairman of the Subcommittee for Best Practices he intends to ensure increased financial and project management efficiency and planning in all aspects of the state's transportation needs.

Higher Education is key to the continuing economic growth of Texas. The UTSA campus in San Antonio is fast becoming a nationwide

campus of choice. Texas A&M expansion plans for San Antonio include a local campus approaching 12,000 students within ten years, in addition to a world class Irrigation Technology center. The UTHSC in San Antonio has an already established role as a leader in BioTechnology and the programs on main campus as well as at the Texas Research Park are vital generators of economic and scientific growth. Representative Mercer is dedicated to ensuring continued expansion of these and many other opportunities, throughout Texas and especially in San Antonio.

As a member of the House Administrations Committee, Mr. Mercer expects to play a key role in implementing cost saving programs that ensure maximum efficiency and expanding services within State government. Already a major contributor to the effectiveness of the Legislature, Representative Mercer plans to develop an increased role in cost savings and importance for the department.

Married for 12 years to Rosalia Salas Mercer, Ken has two daughters, Sarah and Rebekah. Labeled conservative, he has reached across traditional political party lines to represent over 140,000 citizens in District 117 with a platform that guarantees inclusion and the highest ethical standards. With his Hispanic/Anglo heritage Representative Mercer appeals to a wide spectrum of his community and is totally committed to placing his constituency in the forefront of his responsibilities and efforts.

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